

## **Bangor Housing Authority Liaison Officer**

In 1987, the Bangor Police Department, under former Chief of Police Richard Stockford and in conjunction with the Bangor Housing Authority, developed a program where a police officer would work within Housing Authority properties in an effort to reduce the crime rate within these low-income housing projects. The duties of the officer were to work with the Housing Authority and the residents in this area.

Officer Gregg Sproul was assigned to the position, and Officer Sproul began to work on developing a rapport with the residents. Officer Sproul enforced the laws, conducted follow-up on police complaints, and engaged in routine patrols in the Capehart area. Shortly after Officer Sproul took the position, he began working on the formation of a Police Athletic League (PAL). During his tenure with the Housing Authority, the first bike patrol was started, along with a variety of other neighborhood programs such as neighborhood watch.

As a result of Officer Sproul's efforts in working together with residents and the Housing Authority, the area experienced a 65% decrease in police related incidents within the first two years.

Today, under the direction of Chief Don Winslow, the program remains active and this area still enjoys a relatively low crime rate, thanks in part to the Bangor Housing Authority, residents of this area, and the dedication of men and women of the Bangor Police Department. Officer Sproul is still assigned to this area and can be contacted either through the Police Dept. at 947-7384 or at his Capehart office at 941-9551.